



# GOVERNOR NEWS

## Summer Term 2018

### Governing Body

Aaron Mulligan, Chair of Governors  
Rev Barbara Messham, Vice-Chair  
Jayne Neveu – Head Teacher  
Sue Mottram - Clerk  
Jim Burrows - Foundation  
Sue Ross – Local Authority  
Angus McKenzie – Parent  
Eve Perry – Staff (Teaching)  
James Bowers – Co-opted  
Chris Davis – Parent  
Mike Ahearne – Parent  
Jenny Street – Associate

#### **We're here to help**

Please don't hesitate to talk to us if you have any queries about governorship or wish to speak to us about any aspect of school life – we want to work better together for the good of the children, the staff and the school.

Our details are on the noticeboard in the foyer of the school and on the website.

### Dear Parents,

As yet another academic year passes by, here's the next installment of the Governor Newsletter, informing you of the many aspects of what Governors do to support the School. We hope you find it beneficial, and we always welcome feedback!

#### **Governing Body Changes: Saying Goodbye...**

...to Reverend Barbara Messham.

With a great deal of sadness, we are saying goodbye to Barbara. With her retirement, she will be stepping down from her role as Vice-Chair on the Governing Body. During her many years with us, she has also served as acting-Chair, and on three different committees. We will greatly miss her wisdom, kindness and constant concern for everyone at the school.

We join with all Staff, Parents and children in wishing Barbara the very best in her retirement.

Please read on to find out more...

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### Future Governor Opportunities

Our Governing Body is regularly changing and often in need of new members. If you feel that you may be able to give of your time and talents in the future, please come and chat with us, and we can keep you informed of potential opportunities. Two of the major matters of concern for Governors are School Finances and the children's learning. As parents/carers, you can help:

### School Finances

Much has been made of the challenging financial environment that is affecting many schools. Please be assured that our school is well run, with stable finances. However, one way parents/carers can really help is to contribute towards trips and outings the school puts on for the children. All contributions are of course voluntary, but swift payment helps the school tremendously.

### Holidays in term time

We know this can be a sensitive issue, but we also know the difficult situation the school can be put in when children are missing during term time. Naturally, there is an impact on the learning of the child who is missing, but it can disrupt the planning for the class and have wider implications. Please do your best to minimise such disruptions!

## GOVERNOR ACTIVITIES

The role of the **Governors** is concerned with school direction and strategy, rather than day to day running of the school, which falls to the Head Teacher. We meet with subject leaders, hold committee meetings, do 'learning walks' and monitor all aspects of school life. Classroom matters and other normal school concerns should first be raised with Class Teachers or the Head, rather than seeking out governors.

In recent weeks, our work has included:

**Full Governing Body Meeting** – this meeting is held regularly, with all governors present to provide and hear reports on every aspect of the School. Governors are expected to hold the Head Teacher to account for progress in learning, levels of attainment reached, attendance of all pupils and to determine if the School's strategic goals are being met.

**Safeguarding** – One role we take very seriously as governors is our efforts to ensure each child feels safe at school, and the school is following all necessary safeguarding practices. We monitor all such matters at every Governor meeting and ensure all protocols and policies are followed correctly. We can report that the school has had an annual safeguarding audit (by the GCSB), showing our processes to be robust, and we are fulfilling all of our obligations in respect to this important matter.

Children are our focus.  
Achievement,  
Respect and  
Excellence are our aims

### Foundation Subject Visits

On the Ofsted report (from January) the one item for school development was to ensure that the fantastic efforts being applied in core subjects (reading, writing and maths) would be applied across the curriculum as a whole.

In light of this, Governors have been meeting with subject leaders for Music, PSHE, PE, Science, Art and others. We monitor how each subject is delivered across the school ensuring best practice is followed. It is truly remarkable to see the richness of the curriculum being provided for the children, and we want to thank all staff for their excellent work.

### Finally...

Well done to everyone who was involved in the end of year play – 'Shakespeare Rocks!' It was a wonderfully fun performance, showing how talented and creative these children are.

We now say 'Cheerio' to our Year 6 pupils. They have been a credit to themselves and the school as they have matured year on year. At their farewell assembly (in Apperley Church), they expressed their appreciation for all at the have helped them flourish. We will miss you.

*Good luck at your next School.*

To all Parents and the rest of the children – thank you for all your hard work this year, have a great Summer and we look forward to seeing you again in the Autumn.

*The Governors*